

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-12 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 RSR-01

/087 W

----- 116224

R 041415 Z MAY 73

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3457

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 340

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (P A R A G R A P H 2.)

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PINT RH

SUBJ: NIESEWAND ALLOWED TO LEAVE RHODESIA

REF: CAPE TOWN 330 (NOTAL)

1. RHODESIAN JOURNALIST PETER NIESEWAND WHO APPEALED SUCCESSFULLY AGAINST CONVICTION UNDER OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT (REFTEL) WAS ALLOWED TO LEAVE RHODESIA EVENING MAY 3. CAPE TIMES REPORT STATES HE WAS RELEASED UNDER VEIL OF SECRECY AND ESCORTED TO TAP (PORTUGUESE) AIRLINER FOR LISBON. HE EXPECTED PROCEED LONDON ASAP. NOT CLEAR IF WIFE, WHO ALLOWED SEE HUSBAND FOR AN HOUR AT AIRPORT, WILL BE ALLOWED TO FOLLOW LATER.

2. ACCORDING RHODESIAN INFORMATION DEPARTMENT RELEASE QUOTED IN DIE BURGER, MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER LARDNER- BURKE DECIDED THAT DETENTION ORDER AGAINST NIESEWAND WILL REMAIN INFORCE. TO FREE
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HIM IN RHODESIA WAS STILL IN CONFLICT WITH PUBLIC SAFETY AND ORDER, BUT HIS PRESENCE OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY HELD NO DANGER FOR RHODESIA' S SAFETY. THUS PERMIT GRANTED HIM TO LEAVE UNDER CONDITIONS WHICH NIESEWAND ACCEPTED.

3. 3. DURING PRESS INTERVIEW AT LUANDA STOPOVER NIESEWAND SAID AS REPORTED AFTERNOON ARGUS (MAY 4) THAT HE HAD SIGNED AGREEMENT HE WOULD NOT SPEAK ABOUT RHODESIAN MILITARY SITUATION WHILE OVERSEAS. AGREEMENT PERMITTED HIM RETURN TO RHODESIA ONLY 14 DAYS EACH YEAR TO SEE HIS FAMILY OR ATTEND TO PERSONAL AFFAIRS. IF HE VIOLATED AGREEMENT HE COULD BE DETAINED AGAIN ON HIS RETURN.

4. NIESEWAND ALSO QUOTED AS SAYING THAT: A) HE THOUGH RHODESIA HOPED TO GET SETTLEMENT WITH BRITAIN LATER THIS YEAR AND THAT HIS DETENTION AND RELEASE WERE SOMEHOW RELATED TO THIS; B) HE BELIEVED HIS DETENTION WAS PARTLY INTENDED AS INTIMIDATION OF THE PRESS AND PARTLY BECAUSE OF ALLEGED CONTRAVENTIONS OF OFFICIAL SECRETS ACT; C) NEWS REPORTS WHICH FORMED BASIS OF CHARGES AGAINST HIM REFERRED TO RHODESIAN INVOLVEMENT IN THE WAR AGAINST GUERILLAS IN MOZAMBIQUE.
O' NEILL

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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LONDON
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